

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Celina Police Department is dedicated to providing the best service possible to all citizens. Our officers are carefully selected and trained to provide excellent service to the community. This section gives an overview of the ways to commend exemplary performance or file a complaint against an officer.

COMMENDATIONS

If you see an officer exhibit outstanding behavior, tell the officer and/or their supervisor about it. The following are suggestions for commending an officer.

- Write a letter to the officer's supervisor, or the Police Chief at:

Celina Police Department
110 N. Colorado Dr.
Celina, TX 75009

- Email the administration at police@celina-tx.gov

Commendation letters are logged and placed in the officer's permanent personnel file.

- Call the Police Department at 972-382.2121 and ask to speak with the officer's supervisor.
- If you are unsure of the officer's name, describe the officer and list the specific actions or demeanor that impressed you. Mention the location, date and time the incident occurred.

COMPLAINTS

When a citizen has a complaint against an officer, the complaint is directed to the department's Internal Affairs Division, located at Police Department, 110 N. Colorado Dr in Celina, 972-382.2121. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday

Texas law requires that all complaints against police officers be in writing and signed by the person making the complaint. Complaints must be made within 30 days of the incident unless special circumstances exist. The person who was wronged must file the complaint; other persons may give statements as witnesses.

Internal Affairs investigators will ensure that a thorough investigation of your complaint is conducted. Just as citizens who are arrested must be told the charges against them, a police officer must be given a copy of the complaint before any disciplinary action is taken. When the investigation is completed, you will be notified of the results and action taken.

FALSE COMPLAINTS

Filing a false complaint against a police officer is a violation of the Texas Penal Code, Section 37.02. If a person knowingly and intentionally makes a false statement under oath, or swears to the truth of a false statement previously made under oath, a person may be found guilty and punished by a fine up to \$4,000, confinement in jail up to one year, or by both fine and imprisonment.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A COMPLAINT IS UPHELD?

When the investigation finds that the charges against a police officer are true, the officer's supervisor notifies the officer and may take one of the following actions:

- (1) reprimand the officer verbally or in writing;
- (2) suspend the officer without pay;
- (3) demote the officer; or
- (4) discharge the officer.

Officers can appeal the department's decision to uphold a complaint and the decision to discipline the officer.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A COMPLAINT IS NOT UPHELD?

Complaints must be supported by sufficient evidence. When the investigation cannot find the degree of evidence necessary to prove the officer acted improperly, the officer and the citizen are both notified in writing. If the complaint is proven to be deliberately fabricated by the complainant, criminal charges of filing a false report may be sought against the complainant.

RACIAL PROFILING COMPLAINTS

CCP Art. 2.132 Law Enforcement Policy on Racial Profiling requires the department to provide public education on the racial profiling complaint process. For the Celina Police Department, this process is the same as the department's complaint process, as described on this web site.

The Celina Police Department is extremely interested in taking action when its officers are negligent in their duties or are guilty of wrongdoing. Your complaint will be given a fair and thorough investigation.

CONTACT US

Celina Police Department
110 N. Colorado Dr.
Celina, TX 75009

972-382-2121
sscott@celina-tx.gov

Initial

Initial _____

The Celina Police Department takes all complaints seriously. Your complaint will need to be notarized and sworn to the accounts you are alleging. Any complaint determined to be knowingly falsified will be investigated as a criminal offense and may result in criminal charges.

Sec. 37.02. Perjury. (a) A person commits an offense if, with intent to deceive and with knowledge of the statement's meaning: (1) he makes a false statement under oath or swears to the truth of a false statement previously made and the statement is required or authorized by law to be made under oath; or (2) he makes a false unsworn declaration under Chapter 132, Civil Practice and Remedies Code. (b) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

Sec. 37.03. Aggravated Perjury. (a) A person commits an offense if he commits perjury as defined in Section 37.02, and the false statement: (1) is made during or in connection with an official proceeding; and (2) is material. (b) An offense under this section is a felony of the third degree.

Sec. 37.08. FALSE REPORT TO PEACE OFFICER, FEDERAL SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR, OR LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE.

(a) A person commits an offense if, with intent to deceive, he knowingly makes a false statement that is material to a criminal investigation and makes the statement to:

- (1) a peace officer or federal special investigator conducting the investigation; or
- (2) any employee of a law enforcement agency that is authorized by the agency to conduct the investigation and that the actor knows is conducting the investigation.

(b) In this section, "law enforcement agency" has the meaning assigned by Article 59.01, Code of Criminal Procedure.

(c) An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

I, _____, solemnly swear or affirm that the facts above and on the attached pages bearing my initials are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

X

Signature of Complainant

DOCUMENT MUST BE NOTARIZED TO BE ACCEPTED.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME this the _____ day of _____, 20____.

In the County of _____ State of Texas.

My commission expires on: _____

NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Texas

Return this complaint form to the Celina Police Department at 110 N. Colorado Dr. Celina, TX 75009 Attn: Internal Affairs